

Chevy Chase 2017 Briefing Notes

Preparation:

Lights: you will need them if taking full value from the day out and expect to finish between 20:00 and 21:30 hrs – A head torch for night navigation is also advisable

The Start: will be open from 07:15. You are encouraged to take a purist approach and ride to the start. I do however understand that driving to events is, for some, a necessity.

Parking: We do want to leave some space during the day for the locals. When you arrive we will be directing parking. If you can arrange a car-share please do so.

There are a couple of good places to overflow park, a large layby on the right as you drive from Ponteland [55.078669, -1.761765](https://www.google.com/maps/place/55.078669,-1.761765) and another layby to the North [55.122614, -1.753801](https://www.google.com/maps/place/55.122614,-1.753801) It's not the sort of area to worry unduly about leaving your car during the day.

After you arrive collect your brevet card which has printed boxes representing each of the controls on which we record your progress. There will be plastic bags available to keep the card dry during the ride. Signing on is not required.

If you have any questions please ask another rider there will be plenty around and only a few busy organisers.

A few minutes before the start get on your bike ready to go. I will give you a final briefing and set you off.

If you are late collect your card from the café and set off for Whygate check-point.

If you are very late be aware that you will have to arrive there by 11:08hrs

Family and Friends:

I am afraid that following cars and outside help en-route are forbidden under AUK rules. If you do have any family or friends who would like to join you on the day they may meet you at one of the controls. Extra help checking cards would be very much appreciated by us.

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Accidents and Incidents:

I do of course hope you ride safely and enjoy beautiful scenery on an excellent route in good company.

If something should happen I do need to report back to AUK. Please pass on details of names and a brief description of the incident/accident.

The Route:

The route-sheet and GPX track is available to down-load from the [Audax UK website event page](#)

Ride with GPS route is also available here: <http://ridewithgps.com/routes/7550452>

The route-sheet contains detailed instructions to get you round the event and there will be no problem using it alone to navigate. Every time you need to make a decision there will be an instruction. Note that if you just continue along a road with right of way, each individual side road will not be mentioned - just those that matter. You may wish to compare the route with a map (and perhaps carry a map on the day),.

- Route sheet distances are in Kilometres. Reset the cumulative distance on your GPS/computer at controls.
- Shorthand is used for the instructions (eg "R @ T sp Nashville")
- Signposted places will be in bold text if you pass through them.

You will need to keep the sheet dry it will become unreadable if it gets wet. Plastic bags or lamination are the usual options or map-holders, whether as part of a bar bag or a separate unit. Some fasten the route-sheet to their arm using an elastic band, or to gear cables using a peg.

If you use GPS navigation do not rely entirely upon it.

Final route checking will be on the 17th of April , I don't expect any changes but please look out for an email.

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On the ride:

Remember that Audax is not (officially) competitive so there is no need to rush off with the hares. The large bunch will quickly break up. You should find that the other riders are happy to chat as they roll along, and share their experiences with you. But if you prefer to ride alone that's fine.

If you have a mechanical problem, you will be expected to deal with it yourself, though you should find plenty of assistance if you are in a group, and passing riders will generally ask if you need any help. Do have the basic necessities. I would recommend means to fix a puncture (tyre levers, spare tubes, pump a spare tyre or tyre boot - some strips of gaffer tape work well plus quick links in case of a broken chain.

Do have a backup plan in case you break down irreparably.

If for any reason you DNF'and are unable to complete the event please inform us using the phone number on the brevet card.

ranges there is no mobile phone coverage. If you are in the front or middle of the field, pass a message on with another rider. If you pack please send me a text and check that it gets acknowledged.

Checkpoints:

Controls are placed at points on the route to ensure you complete the distance without short-cuts. On the Chevy there are five controls, two cars at Whygate and Buckham's Bridge and three café stops. We have arranged helpers to check and time you through the control.

Please be aware that you must pass through the controls between the maximum and minimum times printed on your brevet card in order for your ride to be validated. The times are calculated on average speed between 30 and 14.8 Kph

Don't waste time you cannot afford at controls. Do look after yourself, drink plenty of fluids and eat suitable food.

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Eating and drinking:

The cafes are expecting us but queues will be inevitable. If it is busy consider just getting a stamp at the stop There will be water containers outside for filling bottles. Below is a list both of official and alternative stops

Distance	Place	Control	Description	Facilities
38	Wark	N	PO & Shop	Coffee machine, Sandwiches Snacks. Public Toilets on R past PO
38	Wark	N	Farm Stores (on L at Junc)	Deli/Coffee Shop
49	Whygate	Yes	Car	Homemade Apricot Flapjack, Bananas Water
76	Falstone	Yes	Café	Snacks hot drinks
98	Otterburn	No	Shop & Café	Hot drinks Snacks Food, Toilets
104	Elsdon	Yes	Impromptu Café	Drinks, food, limited toilet facilities
	Elsdon	No	Bird & Bush Café	Drinks, food,
122	Alwington	No	Pub	Drinks Food Public toilets Water
131	Barrowburn	Yes	Café	Drinks food Toilet
167	Elsdon	Yes	Impromptu Café	Drinks, food, limited toilet facilities
201	Thorneyford	Yes	Café	Drinks, food, limited toilet facilities

The finish

At the arrivée sign your card, and hand it to me. And that's it - well done. I hope you enjoyed it. Your brevet card will be sent to Audax UK for homologation and validated and then posted back to you. There are badges and medals available for a modest charge - let me know at the end if you require either.

Refreshments are available at the end (also the start)

If you are driving home, do be careful. You have just completed a strenuous event, possibly the longest ride you have ever done, so you are likely to be tired. If you can take a rest it is a good idea to do so.

Aidan Hedley, Principal Organiser

